



U.S. Department of Justice
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NEWS RELEASE

United States Attorney Michael L. Levy announced today the filing of a one-count indictment¹ charging Lenny Tavarez with destruction of an aircraft or aircraft facilities. According to the indictment, Tavarez was involved in an incident on October 2, 2008 during which he shined a laser into the cockpit of a Philadelphia Police Department helicopter during routine patrol, striking a pilot in the eyes.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE OR DATE OF BIRTH
LENNY TAVAREZ	Philadelphia	1988

Tavarez faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, a \$250,000 fine, and a \$100 special assessment.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Philadelphia Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Salvatore L. Astolfi.

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¹ An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.